



Application No: GB0522892.9

Examiner: Brendan Churchill

Claims searched: 1-35

Date of search: 5 January 2006

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17****Documents considered to be relevant:**

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X,E	1-35	WO 03/089161 A2 [ENVENTURE] See especially claim 142 and figure 19

**Categories:**

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

**Field of Search:**Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>x</sup> :

E1F

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

E21B; F16L

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

EPODOC, WPI, Fulltext databases



Your ref : P103166GB01/ASG  
Application No : GB0522892.9

Date of report: 6 January 2006  
Page 2 / 2

**[Examination Report contd.]**

first tubular". It is unclear from the description of this application what forms of coupling could be envisaged that do not comprise overlapping. It would be appreciated if you could provide evidence of support within the application of any other forms for this invention. If you cannot then the implication that other forms may be included should be removed. (The embodiments of figures 13 and 14 are noted but it is considered that these cannot be part of this invention as the first and second tubulars are not coupled to one another except by the provision of the sleeve.) Similar issues are present in claims 7, 8, 9, 10, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 32, 33, 34 and 35.

7. The description of the application, and in particular the summary of the invention of pages 3-4 and 53-73, should be amended to ensure that it is concomitant with the essential features of the invention as defined in the claims.

8. The application includes two sets of claims at pages 74-85 and pages 86-107, each beginning at claim 1. The second set at pages 86-107 appear to be a reproduction of the parent application's original claims and should be removed.

**Publication**

9. Publication is proceeding concurrently.



Your ref : P103166GB01/ASG  
Application No: GB0522892.9  
Applicant : Enventure Global Technology  
Latest date for reply: 8 May 2006

Examiner : Brendan Churchill  
Tel : 01633 813554  
Date of report : 6 January 2006  
Page 1/2

## Patents Act 1977 Combined Search and Examination Report under Sections 17 & 18(3)

### Allowance of the divisional date

1. Your request that this application be treated as having been filed on 24 June 2003, which is the same date of filing as your earlier application number GB0503250.3, has been allowed.

### Basis of the examination

2. The application includes two sets of claims at pages 74-85 and pages 86-107, each beginning at claim 1. The search and examination are based on the first set of claims, ie those of pages 74-85. If you would like the second set of claims considered you should make this clear; further search fees may be payable.

### Novelty

3. The invention as defined in claims 1-35 is not new because it has already been disclosed in the following document:

WO 03/089161 A2 [ENVENTURE] See especially claim 142 and figure 19

No amendment of your claims will be needed in respect of this document marked if you can show that the priority date of your invention is not later than the priority date of the relevant disclosure in that document.

4. You should be aware that this document appears relevant to the claims of this application's parent application (GB0503250.3).

### Clarity, consistency and support

5. The reference in claims 1 and 15 to deformation of the tubulars only "proximate the tubular sleeve" is not clear. Proximate is understood to mean "near" or "next to". As there is no clear indication in the claim that the sleeve itself is to be expanded then there is an implication that the tubulars are only expanded up to (or next to) the sleeve but not where the sleeve couples with the tubulars.

6. Claim 4 provides a further definition to the coupling of the first and second tubulars such that it "comprises overlapping a portion of the second tubular with a portion of the